

Garrison Commander's Golf Scramble, See Page 1C

Vol. 41, Issue 7

Serving the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities (www.stewart.army.mil)

March 1, 2007



**Black History** Observance at Hunter, See Page 1B

Big Day! March 8, Spiritual Luncheon, Casing of the Colors, Street Dance, See Pages 2A, 6A,1B

Regional Information **Sharing** Conference, See Page 5B



# Marne Soldiers set for Global War on Terror

# Division CPX battles in brief

Sgt. Ben Brody 3rd Inf. Div. Public Affairs

In ancient wars, the decisive force on the conventional battlefield was fighters. The stronger and more organized warriors won. By the end of World War I, machines had usurped that role. Now, as weaponry has advanced to the point where even the toughest machines can rarely endure direct hits, information is taking over as the primary factor that separates victory from defeat.

Intelligence has always played a crucial role on the battlefield. But before the advent of radio, satellite photography available for immediate download, and GPS systems like Blue Force Tracker, battlefield information moved in limited amounts at a finite speed.

As the speed and reliability of information simultaneously increased, a system was needed to fill the widening gap between the amount of data available and the battle staff's ability to present it to the command in a timely, accurate manner.

# Manifesting a deep affection

**Kurt Wolfe** Frontline Staff

After months of training in the classroom and in the field, it all comes down to one day - the day of deployment. Soldiers gather with their units at Ft. Stewart as families and friends see them off. They say goodbye and board a white bus for the ride to Truscott Air Terminal located at Hunter Army

By now the Soldiers are well trained and thoroughly prepared for the war they will fight half way around the world. Many of the Soldiers deployed before and know what to expect. For others it is very

"Young Soldiers get off the bus sometimes and I can tell from the expression on their faces that they are scared," says Judy Waynick, the Deputy Adjutant General from Ft. Stewart. Waynick helps oversee a



Pfc. Felicia G. Rivera, HHC, 26 BSB, successfully launches the Raven into the air. The Raven is equipped with a night vision camera, has a flight time of 60 to 90 minutes and a range of up to 10 kilometers. See Page 3A for the

# Staying in touch helps Soldiers

Spc. Ricardo Branch 1st BCT Public Affairs

CAMP RAMADI, Iraq - Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division may be miles away from home but still have many ways they can stay in touch with loved ones while deployed in Iraq.

With the available of the internet, and phones, Soldiers are able to call home at the dial of a finger or the stroke of a keyboard.

"I like to use a phone to call home," said Spc. Timothy Webb, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st BCT. "Sometimes, the lines can be very long but the wait is worth it to talk to my mom and dad."

As a result of more phones being accessible, Soldiers deployed to some of the more remote locations in Iraq are able to call as often as possible and as much as they want.

See CONACT

-Page 11A

# Stewart, Hunter AER Campaign starts today

Col. Todd Buchs, Stewart-Hunter garrison commander, kicks off the annual Army Emergency Relief Campaign here Friday.

The AER Campaign starts today and runs through May 15.

The campaign raises money for the AER fund. That fund is used to help Soldiers and their families in times of financial need.

AER is a private nonprofit organization chartered in 1942 to help Soldiers take care of their

AER helps Soldiers, retirees, and their families pay for food, rent and utilities, provide emergency transportation and vehicle repair, and cover other personal needs if pay is delayed or stolen.

AER provides the funds to Soldiers in interest free loans, grants, or in a combination of the two. AER also offers undergraduate scholarships to the

# children of Soldiers and retirees. Guard tower keeps lookout, levels the field

Spc. Ricardo Branch 1st BCT Public Affairs

RAMADI, Iraq - Operating in a guard tower in Ramadi can be the

key to determine success in a fire fight. With many of the new combat outposts in unsecured portions of the city, the guard tower can help save lives by turning the tide in a

dangerous fight. "Around 0400 the other day Sgt. Bailey and I were manning Tower 1 and Tower 2, which were the hot towers, when we came under fire

> from houses in our sector," said Spc. Damien Schaffer, Company C, Battalion, 7th 2nd Infantry.

He said scanning quickly and finding the source of gunfire attacking them is the deciding factor in any attack on their base.

"They were attacking our entry control point so the tank began firing back and we then pinpointed the vicinity where they were firing from and attacked with the 50 cal. and MK19," Schaffer said. "You could see the tracers and bullets then flying around the towers and at the ECP but they weren't aiming very well.'

Schaffer and many of

the tower credit their MK19, a fully automatic grenade launcher, as a deciding factor during pitched battles because of what it brings to the

"Overall, the fire fight lasted maybe ten minutes because when you bring fire down on them with a MK19, insurgent attacks diminish quickly and they pretty much scatter away," he said.

Although, day time encounters are another matter for Soldiers who man the towers.

"During the day it's pretty much quick shots because insurgents don't like to expose themselves real long for us to see them, but at night, it's more accurately aimed shots," Schaffer said.

With the constant attacks, Soldiers manning the guard tower have to be careful during each engagement.

"You can tell where the fire is coming from, but insurgents will not come out in the open to attack you because they just fire from over buildings," Schaffer said. "Basically, they are spraying and praying and trying to get you to fire in the direction of the other outposts in the

"They will shoot at you from the direction of the other COP and hope that you will shoot high and next thing you know you got two outposts firing at one another, so it's good to have cross talk between the COPs to prevent any incidents

Schaffer's first fire fight in Ramadi so far has been the most memorable.

"First night I was up here it was a full-fledged fire-fight," he said. "You had tracers whizzing past both towers, and we had about seven or eight (Soldiers) up here helping us repel the attack by shooting at the houses where the gun fire was coming from."

Despite the dangers, Soldiers like Schaffer are committed to manning their post because for them a situation can quickly arise if not enough fire is brought into a fight early against an attack on COP Falcon.

They recognize the hazarrds, but Soldier on. Schaffer s said it was a way of helping the cause.

"It's important what we do here," he said. "Not only are we keeping our buddies safe but up here we're also committing ourselves to the fight."



Spc. Ricardo Branch

Spc. Damien Schaffer, Co. C, 2/7 Inf. looks through the sights of a 50-cal. machine gun for enemy combatants in his sector around COP Falcon.

the Soldiers manning

 ${f 2A}^{
m The}{f Frontline}$  March 1, 2007 3rd Infantry Division

# Marne 6 Sends

# Marne community holds special events, moments to remember

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch

3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

We are moving at an incredible pace. And I could not be more proud of this division. Everywhere you look, you see Soldiers and equipment on the move, training and

In a matter of weeks the division headquarters will deploy on an accelerated timeline. The mission is critical and our task will have historic significance. A year from now we will reflect on these days and weeks and we will be proud that we accomplished a great feat in a short time.

It is appropriate now to celebrate and make memories that will last a year and

March 8. Our division colors will be cased signifying our departure for Iraq. We will pause to worship collectively at a spiritual luncheon. And we will celebrate our friendship with a street dance.

"Leaders are always on duty. They love their Soldiers and they love Soldiering."

> Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch 3rd Inf. Div. commanding general

It will be a day that we will all recall for We will hold a ceremony on Fort Stewart many years to come as the day our commu-

nity stood together. It will be a day that we will all think of a year from now no matter where in the world we are and smile. March 8th will be remembered as a great day for each and every one of us.

You are all invited.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our neighbors who have expressed their love and support. Many have offered to embrace our families as their own in our

We will have peace of mind with the knowledge that our loved ones here will receive the support they deserve while we

Join us on March 8 as we celebrate the support this community offers its division the 3rd Infantry Division. ROCK OF THE MARNE!



# \$1,000 Reward

A reward of \$1,000 is being offered for information leadand robbery

Reward offer expires April 7.

# **Violators of Military Hoaxes Act** could receive fines, prison time

Special to the Frontline

FORT BELVOIR, Virginia -- Persons making false or misleading statements to families about the death, injury, capture or disappearance of a member of the Armed Forces of the United States during a time of war could be fined, imprisoned, or both.

According to the Stop Terrorist and Military Hoaxes Act of 2004, codified at Title 18, U.S. Code, Section 1038, it's a criminal offense to convey false or misleading information about the status of a service member during a time of armed conflict. In addition to fines, violators can face up to 5 years in jail for the hoax. When serious injury occurs as a result of a hoax, possible jail time increases to 20 years, and life imprisonment is possible for the perpetrator if death occurs as a result of a hoax.

"The section was added by an act of Congress as a direct result of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001," said CPT Anthony Adolph, judge advocate, Headquarters, 3d Military Police Group

According to LTC Stephanie Stephens, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command's (USACIDC) staff judge advocate, terrorist hoaxes became an issue shortly after 9-11. Existing law at that time generally covered fake bomb threats, but did not apply to fake threats of biological or chemical attack, such as anthrax scares. The proposed "Hoax Act of 2001" was intended to close the gap, but was not passed because it was drafted too broadly. The "Stop Terrorism and Military Hoaxes Act of 2004" includes much of the original basis of the 2001 statute, as well as the additional crime concerning hoaxes related to the status of a military member.

Adolph said some individuals belonging to anti-war and anti-government groups may sometimes prey on family members as an act of rebellion to Soldiers actively engaged in conflict and could face stiff penalties if caught providing false infor-

"Soldiers and their family members are easy targets for such groups who tend to prey on individuals with loved ones serving in combat," Adolph said. "Victims of this scam should know that in the case of injury notifications, the Soldier will be asked to personally call the family. If

unable to do so, the call will come from the **Casualty and Mortuary Affairs Operations** Center at the U.S. Army Human Resources Command or the hospital where the Soldier is recovering.

According to COL Pat Gawkins, CMAOC director, if a Soldier dies in theater or while recovering in a medical facility, a casualty notification officer will make an in-person notification.

"Unfortunately, there have been circumstances beyond our control when we have had to make notifications by telephone,' Gawkins said. "These calls are followed up immediately by a Soldier or officer who will extend condolences.

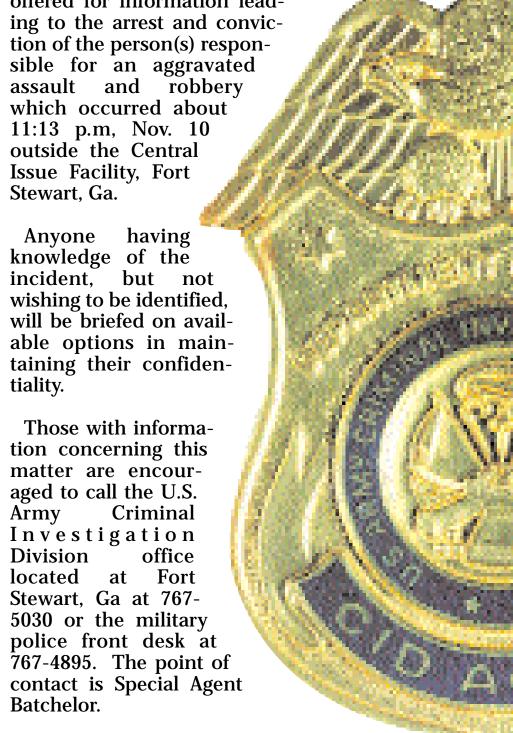
"We have had issues of the Record of Emergency Data (DD93) not having current addresses or incomplete next of kin information which have caused us to make telephonic notification," he added. "In these cases, by simply trying to verify an address, or one next-of-kin calling another while their Casualty Notification Officer was present, we have made notification. Again, this happens in very few cases, but it does happen."

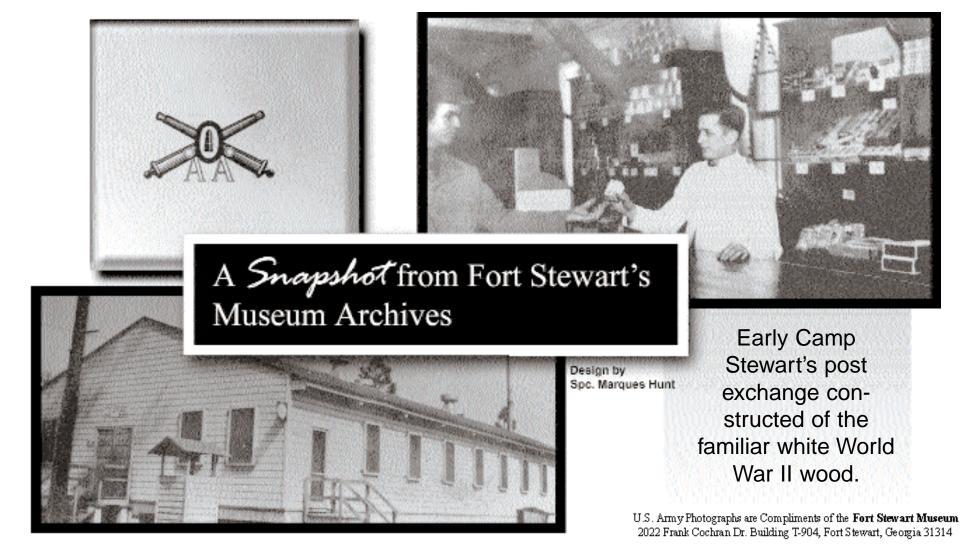
In addition to the personal visit, Adolph said a casualty assistance officer will also provide immediate support for the family member whenever and wherever necessary to help the family through their crisis.

According to Stephens, the 2004 Hoax Act is meant to not only protect the victims of a hoax, but responders as well.

"The civil action portion of the statute means that in addition to criminal penalties, a person who violates the statute may be required to pay for the cost of any expenses that an emergency response of investigative agency incurs while responding to their hoax," Stephens said. "Hoaxes distract federal, state and local law enforcement criminal investigators and emergency responders from a real crises and threats, resulting in a risk to public safety and national security."

CID Special Agents recommend if a family member ever receives a call concerning the medical status of their loved ones deployed to a combat zone, they should note the name and telephone number of the caller, if possible, and contact the local Casualty Office or the American Red Cross to confirm. If the call is determined to be a hoax, immediately report the crime to the local CID office.





Rock of the Marne

March 1, 2007 The Frontline 3A

# 3rd Infantry Division RAVEN scouts out



PVT Blanton Rosenau 2nd BCT public affairs

Soldiers from C Troop, 3rd Squadron 7th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, participated in an advanced Raven unmanned aerial vehicle operator course Thursday night on Fort Stewart.

"The course was designed to make the Soldiers more proficient on targeting, tactics and procedures," said retired Army Chief Warrant Officer Ken Arrington, now a Raven instructor and project manager of small unarmed aerial vehicles.

"The training is part of new equipment training and adds value to the skills learned in the basic course," Arrington said.

One of the most valuable aspects of the UAV is target acquisition, said Staff Sgt. Eric Bull, C Troop 3/7 Cav. "We can search for and keep our eyes on targets without endangering the lives of our Soldiers."

The UAV has been used in practice for many missions in the past.

"We have watched and even deterred insurgents placing improvised explosive devices," said Bull, who experienced it first hand in Operation Iraqi Freedom III. "It also has a night vision camera and we have identified insurgents without giving away our position."

The Raven UAV the Soldiers were trained on was a newer, upgraded version.

"The Raven B has a better tracking software and the hand control is much more user friendly," said Bull. "The cameras were upgraded as well. They have a much improved resolution and zoom."

In the past the use of the Raven UAV was not as widespread as it is now, said Bull. "In the past we had two Ravens total and they were all at squadron level."

Now each ground troop has their own Raven System which allows commanders to utilize it more which ultimately will save Soldier lives, said Bull.

minutes," said Arrington. It is virtually indestructible, he added.

Its wingspan measures four and a half feet and it weights

"The plane can be assembled and the system set up in mere

only slightly more than four pounds.

The Raven has a flight time of 60 to 90 minutes, flies up to 35 knots, and has a radio range of 10 kilometers, though it is most effective between 150 to 1000 feet, said Arrington.



4A The Frontline March 1, 2007 3rd Infantry Division

# Children of fallen Soldiers invited to make claims

## Funds set to support 3rd Inf div spouses

special to the Frontline

The Honorable William T. Moore, Jr., Chief Judge United States District Court Southern District of Georgia entered in an order on Jan. 18, directing that certain excess unclaimed funds from a class action pending in that district be distributed to the Children of Fallen Soldiers Relief Fund, Inc. These funds are earmarked to assist the spouses and children of 3rd Infantry Division soldiers killed or wounded in Iraq or Afghanistan.

The total distribution in the amount

of \$20,000.00 is now held in trust specifically to provide assistance to families of the 3rd Inf. Div. who are in need of assistance and who meet the requirements of the CFSRF.

To apply online visit the agency at: www.cfsrf.org or you may request an application through email grants@cfsrf.org.

"We believe that our freedom and our children's freedoms are forever guaranteed by every member of our Armed Forces who have served in the past, present and future. Our lives are made even richer than those in other countries because of our military personnel. They offer us freedom. Something that no amount of money can buy. Something so priceless you cannot even purchase it on the market, but sadly may not be noticed until it is gone", said Rebecca Campbell, founder of the CFSRF.

The CFSRF is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization that provides financial and emotional support to surviving U.S. military children and spouses affected by the war on terrorism. The program has been further expanded to include families of severely disabled veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. CFSRF was founded in 2003 to honor our service men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our continued freedom.

For more information on the CFSRF. You may visit their website at: www.cfsrf.org and ask how you can help these families.

## SJA clarifies sex-offender law applications on post

Staff Judge Advocate

Both Georgia state law and Department of Defense and Army regulations prescribe requirements for sexual offenders. Failure to comply with these registration requirements may subject the individual to criminal penalties.

Under Georgia law, a sexual offender is anyone who has been convicted of any dangerous sexual offense. This conviction can be from any state or territory, under the laws of the United States, from a military court, or a tribal court. In Georgia, sexual offenders are required to register in three places. More specifically, sexual offenders living in or moving to Georgia must register with the sheriff's office in their county of residence, their county of employment, and the county where they

attend school.

In Georgia, once placed on a sexual offender registry, a sexual offender is required to renew his/her registration information yearly with the sheriff of the county in which the offender resides. At that time, the offender will be photographed and fingerprinted, and his/her information will be updated in the registry. If, during the year, a sexual offender must change or update any of the required registration information, the sexual offender must give the new information to the sheriff of the county with whom the sexual offender is registered within 72 hours of the change of information. If this information includes a change in residence address, the sexual offender must notify both the sheriff of the county where he/she is currently registered and the

county where he/she is moving about the move and the new residence address. Sexual offenders who fail to comply with these requirements may be subject to criminal prosecution.

Department of Defense and Army regulations prescribe registration requirements similar to Georgia's requirements. More specifically, military officials are required to notify state officials upon release of Soldiers or transfer of unconfined Soldiers who have been convicted at special or general courts-martial of sexually violent offenses or offenses against minor victims. These military sexual offenders must register with the Provost Marshal at the Army installation where assigned, residor employment (whether or not they are on active duty). In other words,

Department o Defense and Army regulations do not prohibit military sexual offenders from living on a military installation, but they do impose registration requirements on the sexual offender. Thus, sexual offenders moving to Fort Stewart or Hunter Army Airfield must bring their county registration forms to their local Military Police station for registration. Military sexual offenders who fail to register or to change or update such registration as required may be subject to criminal prosecu-

If you have more questions about sexual offender registration, please visit the Georgia Bureau Investigation's website. It has a link to the state's sexual offender list, as well as a link to the National Sexual Offender Public Registry.

What type of person is a hero in your book?

## Pets are family too, make 'em a care plan

Commentary

by Jim Jeffcoat

I don't wanna' sound sarcastic or anything - but as spring cleanup time rolls around, I can't help but wonder, "how in the world are we

going to get everybody to participate when everybody seems to be going in different directions."

Soldiers are prepping to once again make a stand in the Global War on terrorism; civilian employees are brac-

ing to double-up in support of deployments, family care and sustainability of the garrison; and families and friends are anticipating the increased responsibility to "hold down the fort" while our heroes are at war.

spring However, for cleanup to be successful, the garrison is going to need everybody's participation. Cleanup is a family affair, and for all intends and purposes, we are "family." So, although it may be above and beyond our daily duties, each and everyone of us will have to commit to the cleanup. It is required in order to maintain a healthy environment for everybody - including pets.

Speaking of pets, I'm hoping that some of our "family friends" don't become victims of spring cleanup.

Unattended animals are a problem on and off post. If you deploy and don't consider or make a "family care plan" for your pet, he/she could very well become a spring-cleanup victim.

Chris Holmdahl, the animal health technician at the Fort Stewart Veterinary clinic, warns that your pet's welfare is just as important as the rest of the family. She says any less attention can cause your pet to be put up for adoption, or worst, be targeted for euthanasia.

"Make sure your pet has someone you trust to take care of it," Holmdahl told me. "You should arm that person with a power of attorney for your pet so that he can look after the pet's medical needs and updates."

However, even if owners

do leave their pets with someone who is armed with a power of attorney, Holmdahl encourages owners or "family members" to ensure that their pets' vaccines are up-to-date and the

pets are in good health.

The person you pick to care for your pet needs to be not only someone you trust but someone who you know won't give up on caring for the "family member." If that person becomes negligent, your pet could become a statistic in spite of the care you took before you left.

Pet owners who can't find anybody to help out may call the Vet in attempts to find new owners, however, the clinic's adoption facility makes no promises. By statistics, the chances of a pet finding a new owner through the Vet's adoption plan is very

So, there you have it! Even if you are deploying and won't be around to help the "family" with spring clean up details, you can make sure that your pet does not become a spring cleanup victim by finding someone you trust to care for your pet; empower that person with a power of attorney for your pet; ensure the pet's shots are up to date and make no assumptions that your pet can take care of himself. I'll call that your contribution to spring cleanup.

If you do deploy and leave your pet unattended with the idea that your pet will be waiting on your doorstep for your return – shame on you!

### Two positions are open for Family Support Assistant, GS-0303-05. One position at Fort Stewart and one position at Hunter

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT - open now through Mar. 30

Army Airfield. Both positions are temporary, not to exceed Sept. 30, 2007, with part-time work schedule amounting to 30 hours per week. Incumbent may be extended an additional year. Applicants may submit resume' via email, FAX, or hardcopy to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, ATTN: Nancy Hamilton, 55 Pony Soldier Avenue, Building 253, Fort Stewart, GA 31314. Email - nancy.v.hamilton@us.army.mil. or call 912-767-0279, Fax is 912-767-2302.

## **Marne Voices Speak Out**

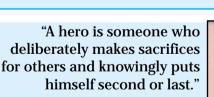
My hero is my father. He fought in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. He instilled a lot of things in me that I live by today.

> **Angela Williams** Civilian, wife of Soldier



We see Soldiers die in Iraq and Afghanistan. Any one of them who has laid down their life qualifies as a hero.

Capt. Rob Taylor National Training Center



**Geoffrey Wilson** Civilian



A hero is someone who gives their life and love for our freedom without complaining, and helps other... to gain their freedom.

**Mell McKenzie** Civilian wife of Soldier

A hero is someone, not necessarily in the military, who does extraordinary things for other people.

> **SPC Jeffery Cambell** B Btry, 1/64 Armor



A hero is anyone, not just in the army, who can balance life with their family and their own personal values and do what is right.

**Nicole Jones** Civilian, wife of Soldier

## Voice your opinion!

Write a letter to the editor! Send to:

**Public Affairs Office** Attn: The Frontline, Editor 894 William H. Wilson Ave. **Building 600C** 

Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-4941 or fax it to 912-767-9366. Visit us at www.stewart.army.mil

# The Frontline

894 William H. Wilson Ave. Bldg. 600C, Ft. Stewart Hinesville, Ga. 31314

(C) 2007

ADVERTISING: (912) 368-0526 THE Frontline OFFICE: 767-5669

This civilian enterprise newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the Frontline are not necessarily the official views of, or are endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or U.S. Forces Command. It is published weekly by the Public Affairs

#### 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION COMMANDER MAJ. GEN. RICK LYNCH **GARRISON COMMANDER COL. TODD A. BUCHS**

3rd Inf. Div. PAO - Lt. Col. Randy Martin 3rd Inf. Div. NCOIC — Master Sgt. David Abrams 3rd Inf. Div. Ops — Staff Sgt. Craig Zentkovich Div. staff writer — Sgt. Ben Brody Div. staff writer — Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft 1st Bde. NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Raymond Piper 1st Bde. staff writer — Spc. Ricardo Branch 2nd Bde. NCOIC — Sgt. Lina Satele 2nd Bde. staff writer - Pvt. Blanton Rosenau 4th Bde. PAO - Maj. Jesse Goldman 4th Bde. staff writer - Spc. Dan Balda Avn. Bde. NCOIC — Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Mills 3rd Sust. Bde. NCOIC — Master Sgt. Rodney Williams

3rd Sust. Bde. staff writer — Sgt. Lorenda Morris Office, Fort Stewart, Ga. 31314-5000. All editorial content of the Frontline newspaper is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Stewart, Georgia and the 3rd Infantry Division and is printed by Morris Newspaper Corporation of Hinesville, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the

Garrison PAO — Richard Olson Command Information Officer - Jim Jeffcoat **Hunter Army Airfield Public Affairs** Hunter Army Airfield PAO — Steven Hart Assistant PAO — Nancy Gould

#### **Editorial/Design Staff** Managing Editor - Pat Young

Garrison staff writer - Jennifer Scales Graphic Design Specialist —Spc. Marques Hunt Production Manager — Sherron Walker Advertising Mgr. — Jessa Kajencki

Department of the Army, under exclusive written contract with Fort Stewart, Georgia. The civilian printer is responsible for commercial advertising. Subscription rates ar \$12 - 3 months. \$20 six months and \$36 for 12 months. Rates are Third Class mail inside the continental U.S

Rock of the Marne

#### The Frontline 5A March 1, 2007

## Master planner strives to provide the best for country and Soldiers

Jennifer Scales Public Affairs Specialist

"Everything I do all day long, every day, is for the Soldier - to provide the best facility; the best barracks; the best ranges," said Anne delaSierra, master planning engineer for Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. "Without physically being in the uniform, I serve my country."

She is one of a handful of female engineers at the installation.

"When I started at Hunter, I was the only female engineer. Now I really don't pay it any attention," she said.

Master planning involves looking at the requirements for the installation's Table of Distribution and Allowance and the modified table of organization and equipment

"We check to see if we are providing adequately for what the population needs, as far as square footage goes," delaSierra said.

"They might not be operating at their optimum capacity because they don't have the resources they need."

This is where the master planner can help. With information in hand, delaSierra can program and prepare a document noting the situation.

"We have to figure out how much each little thing costs, line by line, such as storm drains, gas, water, sewer, the building, and site development," she said.

The plan is put together for submission to Congress. Once a new requirement is approved, a new planning process begins that include determining a location for the project, and environmental constraints. such as wetlands, cultural resources, endangered species, or noise.

"For instance, families living in Liberty Woods are located near the ranges, so they cannot help but hear them," she said. "But persons living off post might consider the noise a problem because it might be higher than what the standard noise levels are suppose to be."

In addition to the noise, delaSierra looks at pedestrian and traffic circulation to determine whether or not cars can have access.

One of the considerations delaSierra made was for the new Family Readiness Center location.

The center was postioned centrally so family members could walk to it, and be close to the commissary, clinic, library, or a number of other locations.

The master planner is the keeper of the land management plan and visual district. With that respect, a battalion headquarters would not be built across from the PX because that is the town center, according to delaSierra. She reasoned the battalion needs to be close to the companies and their respective motorpools.

"So it is my job to make sure that everything is collocated properly," delaSierra.

Like functions are grouped together.

"It really is not haphazard. We really do have a plan. We do something called the master plan," she said. "Like right now we are planning for a 5th Brigade. What is the likelihood one would come here? Pretty slim, but if Congress decides they want to put one here, I better have a plan for where it goes."

DelaSierra is currently working on the planning cycle for fiscal year 2009-2014. Anything for fiscal year 2007 and 2008 is already either under design or under construction.

In addition to the planning aspect, the real property branch works under the umbrella of the master planner.

In the real property arena, a condition assessment for the facilities is done.

"There are many people on post who still work in World War II wooden facilities," delaSierra said. "We have something called the facilities reduction program where we are trying to get rid of all the WWII wood.

Another facet to her work is the installation design guide. This is a profile of what the installation is suppose to look like.

"The whole purpose of the Southern Living Station of Choice concept is we want the installation to look nice, work effectively and efficiently, and provide everything a person wants, so Soldiers want to be stationed here," said delaSierra.

Two real property planning boards are held per year, with all the garrision directors in attendance, so there have been some site revisions to the IDG as it got developed.

Partnership with other agencies on the installation is a constant for delaSierra. Coordination is made with the anti-terrorism force protection office to make sure that there is enough land to have the appropriate set backs for the facility to meets the ATFP requirement.

Coordination is also made with the fire department so that they can have access and then there is the communications and environmental requirements. In addition, building inventories must be done each year.

"We go in to every single building on post and measure and validate the dimensions," she said. "Validation is made for the people who occupy it to determine if there is enough space for them to meet their mission.

delaSierra worked for the Savannah Corps of Engineers for 18 years.

summer-hire clerk typist," she said. " I was unsure of what I would major in when I began college, but they kept after me about getting into the engineer field. They convinced me and before I knew it, I transferred to Georgia Tech and graduated from there in 1982. I then came back to the Savannah Corps as an Army engineer intern."

it for getting her jump started into working for the federal government and the Savannah Corps of Engineer men in the design branch section for pushing her to consider the engineer field.

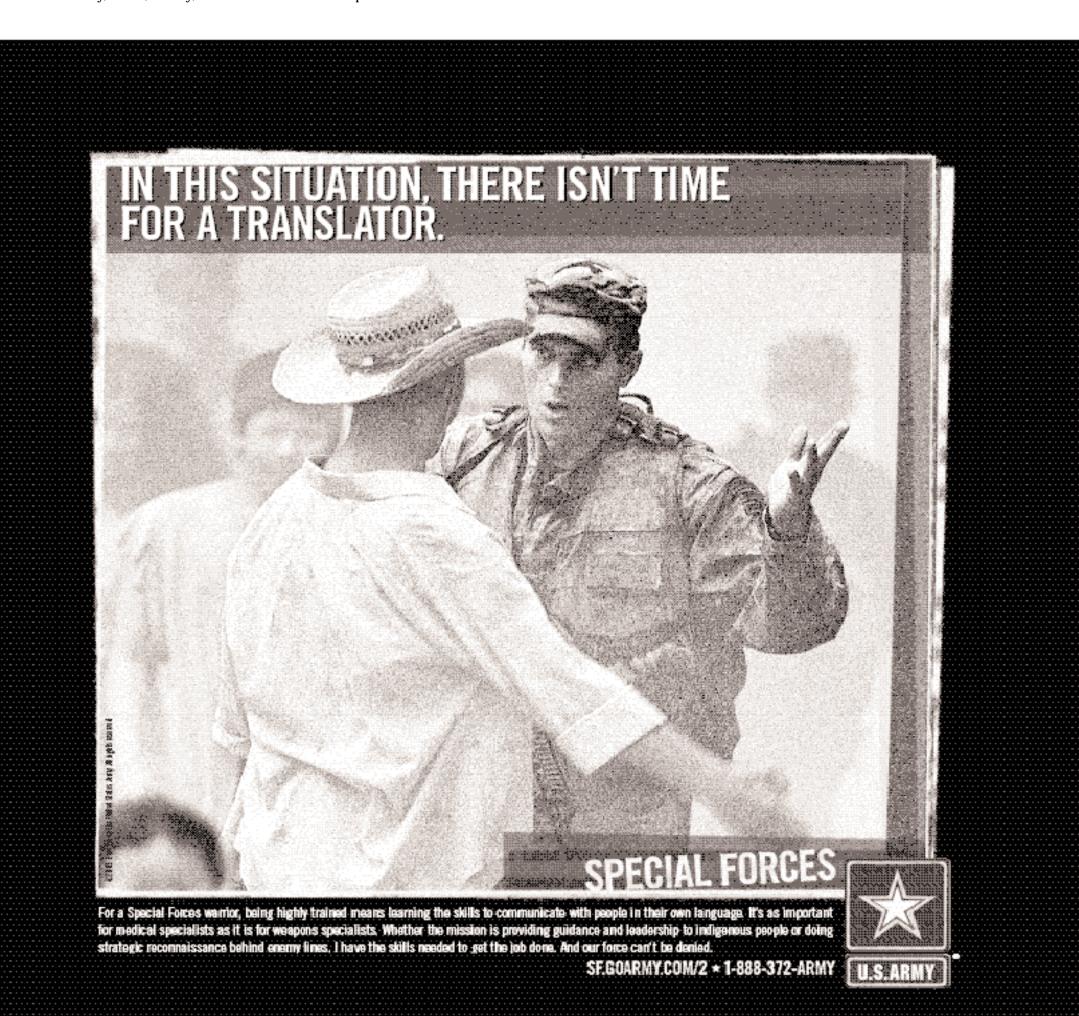
Savannah office, delaSierra met and married Francisco, her husband of 25 years.

Anna Marguerite 'Maggie' attends Savannah College of Art and Design and teaches dance when not in school; and Patricia Mercedes attends Savannah Arts Academy.

away, delaSierra and her husband like to go boating, especially around the Savannah Sound

to be on t h е river, she said.





6A The Frontline March 1, 2007

3rd Infantry Division

## **Fort Stewart / Hunter Army Airfield Briefs**

#### **Division Colors Casing Ceremony slated**

The 3rd Infantry Division and Stewart and Hunter will hold a Casing of the Colors ceremony 4 p.m., March 8 at Marne Garden to recognize the departure of the 3rd Inf. Div. Headquarters and Soldiers in support of the Global War on Terrorism. The uniform is duty uniform. Inclement weather location is Woodruff Theater.

#### Commander hosts street dance

The Fort Stewart and Hunter Army community will come together for a street dance 5 p.m., March 8 at Newman Field. Entertainment is being provided by Michael Scott. The uniform is civilian casual. Inclement weather location is Newman Gym.

#### Speed zones reduced

In order to create the safest conditions possible for our Soldiers training in the field and protect the motorists who use the highways, Fort Stewart has reduced speed limits within the installation boundaries. The changes are on Georgia Highway 144 from the Richmond Hill boundary to the Glennvile boundary and on Georgia Highway 119 from the installation boundary, near Pembroke, to the junction of Georgia Highway 144 on Fort Stewart. The speed limit is reduced to 45 MPH. There are reminders on the message boards at the installation boundaries. All speed limit signs will be changed. If you must traverse these roadways, please use caution and allow for additional time to arrive at your destination.

#### Highways 119, 144 traffic alert announced

Due to increased training throughout the month,

motorists are encouraged to use caution while driving on Georgia Highways 119 and 144 on Fort Stewart. Motorists are urged to use extra caution and be aware of possible vehicle and Soldier road crossings.

#### Catholic Lenten schedule Now - April 7

Stations of the Cross with Holy Communion is every Friday of Lent at 11:45 a.m.; Daily Mass at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at Heritage Chapel, building T-85, Lindquist Rd. Hunter Army Airfield Stations of the Cross followed by soup supper at 6:30 p.m. on Friday of Lent at Hunter Chapel, building 145.

#### Stewart

#### PWOC offers studies focused on female needs

Fort Stewart's Protestant Women of the Chapel meets 9:30 a.m. to Noon every Wednesday at Marne Chapel.

There are four studies offered this spring semester focused on the needs of the modern military wife and female military members. Childcare is provided by Child Youth Services caregivers.

"A firm Foundation," the PWOC Spring Retreat, will be held at Epworth by the Sea on St. Simon's Island, Apr. 13 and 14. All are welcome. PWOC, which is sponsored by the Army Chief of Chaplains, says it is God empowered, Christ centered and Spirit led.

It exists as an extension of the Chapel and encourages women to grow spiritually within the body of Christ through prayer, the study of God's Word, Worship and Service. For more information please contact Tammy Owens at owenshouse2@msn.com.

#### You might be eligible for the HOPE Grant

Georgia residents and military ID card holders, who are attending a Georgia public technical college to earn a certificate or diploma, are eligible for a HOPE Grant regardless of high school graduation date or grade average. You may receive the Hope Grant for an unlimited number of programs that qualify under the guidelines. Full-time enrollment is not required, but you must be making satisfactory academic progress to maintain eligibility. You are not required to maintain a "B" average to renew your HOPE Grant.

Councelors are available at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center, Building 100, Knowledge Dr., Fort Stewart. For more information about the education center, call 767-8331.

#### Basketball championship slated

Come see the basketball action at Newman gym. The company-level basketball championship game will be played 7:30 p.m., March 22 at Newman Fitness Center, building 439. To find out more or see how your team is doing, see page 2C.

#### Apply now for an OSC Scholarship

The Officer's Spouses Club scholarship applications are available in school guidance offices, the Fort Stewart Education Center, the Shop of the Marne and can be downloaded at <a href="http://thesteelmagnolia.org">http://thesteelmagnolia.org</a>. The deadline for returning completed applications is March 14.

#### **Shop of the Marne invites you**

Check out our new Polish pottery room! We will be open Saturday from 10-1 p.m. We are located in building 25 off of McNeely Rd. behind the Ft. Stewart PX. You get ten percent off if you mention this brief.

Rock of the Marne

March 1,2007 The Frontline 7A

## —ASK THE JUDGE—

## Katherine Ingram Legal Assistance Office

Hey Judge, I've heard a lot about parental act powers of attorney and emergency placement cards at my family readiness groups. Could you tell me what these documents are all about?

#### What is a Parental Acts Power of Attorney?

A Parental Acts Power of Attorney is a document that gives another person the authority to care for your children. It allows the person you have designated as your power of attorney to seek medical care for your children, handle school matters, and otherwise take care of your children. A parental acts Power of Attorney can be given to a parent or other person to take care of your children over the summertime or it can be "springing" which means it is only effective only in the event of your hospitalization or incapacitation.

#### Do I need a parental acts power of attorney?

It is a good idea for all parents to have a "springing" parental acts power of attorney. This document names a short term agent and a long term agent to care for your children in the event that you are unable to. The short term agent may be a neighbor or family member that lives close by whereas the long term agent may be a family member or trusted friend that lives further away. This document is especially important if one parent is deployed. It will assure that your children are able to stay with someone you are comfortable with until you recover or until your Soldier can come home. Most of us are painfully aware of the dangers to our deployed soldiers, but sometimes we forget

about all of the dangers at home that could prevent us from caring for our children. If you do not have a parental acts power of attorney naming someone to care for your children, your children will be placed in foster care.

#### How do the emergency personnel know who to contact?

The Ft. Stewart Legal Assistance office has developed Soldier and Family Emergency Stickers and cards that work in connection with the parental acts power of attorney. When you complete your parental acts power of attorney, you should also pick up the brightly colored "SAFE" stickers which can be placed on your children's car seats or in the glove compartment of your vehicle. These stickers provide emergency personnel with the names of your children, any important medical information regarding your children, the contact information for the person holding your parental acts power of attorney, and other emergency contact numbers. You can place additional information on the wallet size emergency contact card available from legal assistance. If you are in an accident and are not able to tell emergency personnel who to call, they will be able to obtain this infor-

#### Where should I keep my parental acts power of attorney?

mation from the SAFE sticker and the emergency contact card.

Each person who you name in your parental acts power of attorney should have a copy of the document and should know where the original is located. This way the person or people you have named to care for your children can produce the document if it is needed.

### Where can I get the parental acts power of attorney?

You may complete your parental acts power of attorney at the legal assistance office currently located off Hase Road in Building 50-A. The legal assistance office will be moving in

ments at the legal assistance office on the second floor of building 621. You do not need an appointment to do this. We will ensure that your document is witnessed and notarized after completed. While you should make sure that the person you are naming to care for your children is aware that you are naming them, they do not need to be present for you to complete this document. Be sure to ask for the SAFE stickers and emergency contact cards to go with your power of attorney.

March. After our move you will be able to obtain these docu-

In short, every family with children should ensure that they have named someone to care for their children in the event of an emergency so that their children do not have to spend significant time in the foster care system. By completing the springing parental acts power of attorney, the SAFE stickers, and the emergency contact cards, emergency personnel will be able to place your children with someone you choose rather than in state care.

#### **Legal Notice**

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of Pv2 Matthew W. Zeimer, HHC, 3/69 Armor, Fort Stewart, Ga, 31314, contact Capt Michael Hurley, rear detachment, 3/69th Armor, Fort Stewart, Ga, 31314, at *michael.hurley@stewart.army.mil* or, call 912-767-4595.

Anyone having claims against or who is indebted to the estate of Pfc. Kelly Youngblood, D Co., 3/69 Armor, Fort Stewart, Ga, 31314 contact 1LT Michael Sawyer, HHC, 1/3 BTB, 1BCT, Fort Stewart 31314 at 767-2902.

8A The Frontline March 1, 2007 3rd Infantry Division

# Working to reduce field problems



Pat Young

Spc. Michael Robinson, 3rd Signal Co., returns to work at Wright Army Airfield during the Division's Command Post Exercise Jan. 23. The event allowed Soldiers and leaders to simulated problems, while 'fielding' logistical 'problems' like setting up tents and running cables.

Pat Young Frontline Staff

Leaders and Soldiers benefited from the Division's Command Post Exercise this week in preparing the unit to deploy to Iraq later this year.

Sgt. 1st Class Leo Rachmel, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Special Troops Battalion, a 20-year veteran who served in Operation Iraqi Freedom I and III, said there was a lot to do.

"The Soldiers here are working extra hard," Rachmel said. "There is a lot of infra-structure to set up. Shelters to raise, cables to run, and other equipment to prepare. It's very manpower intensive."

He said he spends most of his military career in a Humvee.

"At this level, we provide command and control to subordinate units, who are doing the day-to-day activities that make it all work,"

Rachmel said all the hard work was worthwhile because it allowed the Division to perform more better and helped achieve the big goal.

"We're doing a good job helping the Iraqi people, helping their government stand up," Rachmel said. "Its hard work but its what we signed up for."

Rachmel summarized the event with praise for the workers.

"We couldn't do it without the Soldiers," he said.

#### CPX —— From Page 1A

In 1998, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency funded a project to resolve the shortfall, and arrived at Command Post of the Future as a solution.

A CPOF station integrates all the functions necessary to track battles into one interface.

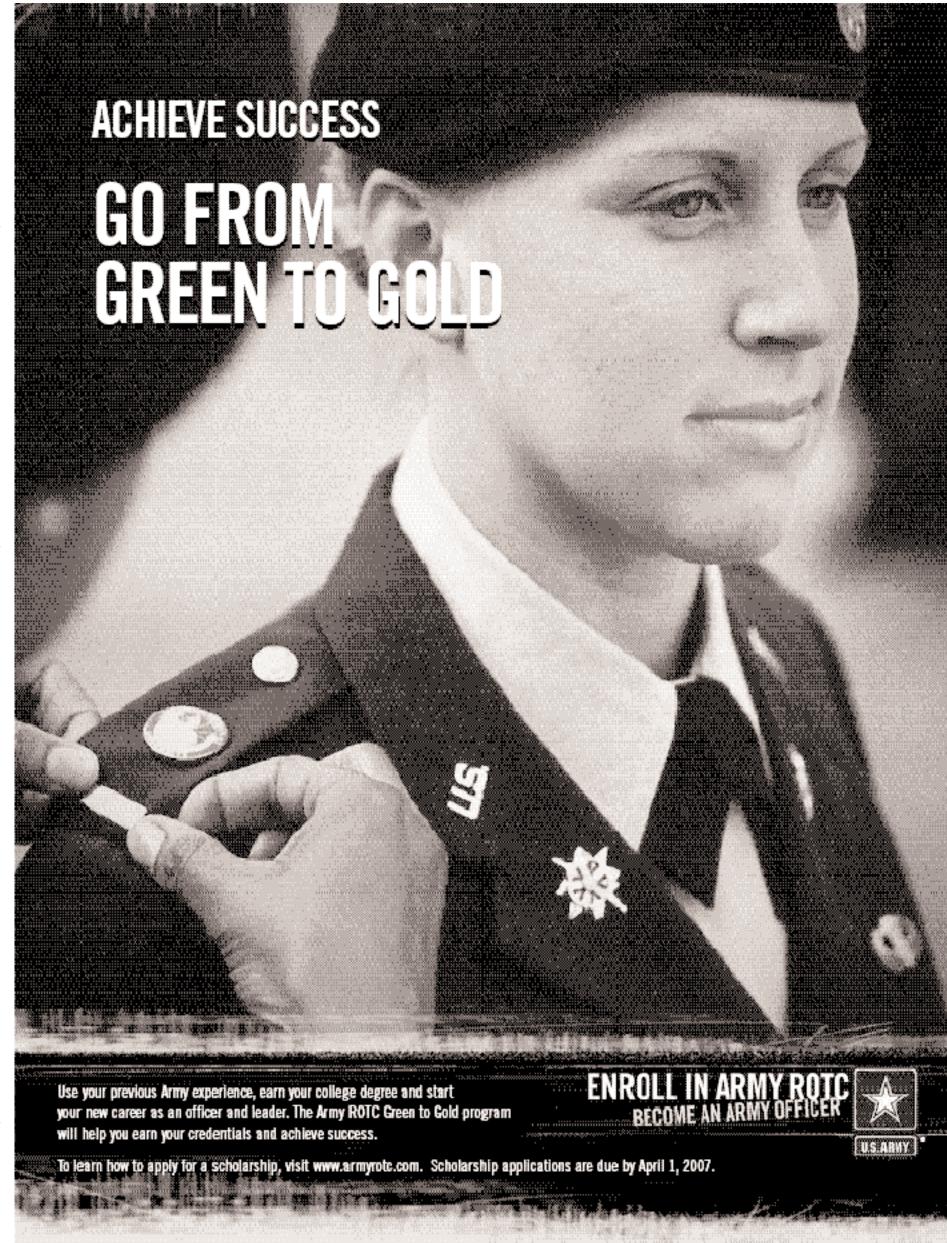
"You can push a button and display the locations of all your moving units on an accurate map in very close to real-time," said Sgt. 1st Class David Braner, Battle Noncomissioned Officer, 3rd Infantry Division. "Before, you didn't know the skill of the people plotting coordinates on a paper map that could be outdated and there's no room for error when you're planning an artillery strike near friendly forces."

Before CPOF, battle staff would work at their stations, tracking the fight, but would also have to brief the command at another location, which led to much of their work being done twice.

"Users brief from their CPOF stations, so there's a much shorter break in the action when it's time to brief the command, and people aren't duplicating their work," said Thomas General Johnson, Dynamics software engineer supporting 3rd Inf. Div. headquarters during their mission rehearsal exercise. "3rd ID seems to understand CPOF pretty well - they're using it effectively."

The first thing one notices upon walking into a tactical operations center outfitted with CPOF stations is the quiet - people aren't shouting information at each other. Rather, they are huddled around the CPOF's triple screens, quietly and efficiently managing their own piece of the fight.

"Trying to manage a battle in the old days was a feat of choreography between all the different sections, the battle major, and the Soldiers sticking pieces of paper on a big map," Braner said. "Now the person in charge of the battle has the tools to put it all together at one workstation."



From Page 1A

#### **MANIFEST**

process known as "manifesting." She, and about half a dozen others are the last civilians these Soldiers see before boarding a plane for a long trip downrange. "Some have never been away from home before, let alone overseas."

On paper, the job is simple. It is to keep track of, and document all Soldiers prior to their deployment flight.

the part of the Soldier," she said. "The burden should be on us. They have enough on their minds."

"There is not a lot required on

The manifest process actually begins in the unit.

"The unit commander provides us with a pre-manifest roster," notes Waynick. "It has every soldier listed who is going out."

Soldiers are lined up at the Departure/Arrival, Airfield Control Group with all their carryon items and equipment for weighing. This information is provided to the flight crew to determine balance issues.

"We line them up on both sides of the DAAG," says Waynick. "We can manifest as many as 300

Soldiers at the same time if need-We scan their ID cards. Names, social security number and all pertinent information are automatically loaded into the manifesting program. If an ID card or dog tag is missing it is not a problem. We can easily issue new ones if necessary." Once a Soldier is manifested, he is released back to his unit.

Soon afterwards, Soldiers go to a "Sterile room," where they are briefed. From there until they board the plane they will have zero contact with the outside world.

Until they enter the sterile room, however, Soldiers just wait. They wait alone with their comrades and thoughts. They are provided a hot meal courtesy of the USO. Some sit around and play cards or write the first of many letters to their loved ones.

Waynick seeks out the faces she calls, "her kids." She sits with them for as long as they want. She takes down phone numbers, and promises to call a mother or a father, a spouse - or maybe a girlfriend or boyfriend. It doesn't matter who. She'll call anyone they want, anytime day or night just to let that loved one know that their Soldier got on the plane safe-

For Waynick and her coworkers this is not a job but a mission whose particulars will never be found in any job description.

The job has no regular hours. Flights leave anytime, 24 hours-aday, seven days-a-week. In an office of eight, Waynick and others try to be there as often as possible.

"Technically our job is done when the wheels are up on that Waynick. plane." notes "Technically," is the relative word for Waynick. She does not consider her job over until "her kids" come home. It is not uncommon for Waynick to communicate with her kids via email during a deployment, and she is always there to help solve problems well beyond her call of duty.

She remembers the day she received a call from a concerned father of a young Soldier. His son had been recently deployed. Creditors were calling demanding payments on outstanding bills if

the father could not prove that his son was currently deployed. The Soldiers' last name was as common and the father only knew the last four digits of his son's social security number. On her own time Waynick scanned numerous records until she found the Soldier. She passed on the information to the creditors. The young Soldier may never know the favor she did for him. For her it

"If I can take care of my kids I will," she says with all modesty. "I'll do whatever it takes. It's the 18 and 19 year olds that really get you. You can't help but feel for them." She looks out distantly as she remembers the faces, and she stops several times during the interview, tears most apparent in her eyes - the eyes of a mother seeing a son or daughter off to

was nothing special.

Waynick makes sure she is there for the Soldiers' return. In the cold wind of a winter night or heat of a Savannah summer, Waynick goes to alone to Cottrell field. She looks and waits anxiously for the returning faces of those she remembers. She lets families have

their time. She does not intrude. Quietly she celebrates the safe return of those who earlier sat in the DAAG, frightened and alone, save for her friendly countenance.

"I remember those faces," she says as she stares ahead at nothing in particular. "I remember them all. They stick with you, you know."



Kurt Wolf

Judy Waynick, deputy adjutant general for Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield helps manifest deploying Soldiers.



# **Justice Served** AWOL; reduced to E1 (suspended), forfeited

## Military Justice

Pvt. David Bostick, 3d SB, convicted at special court-martial of desertion; reduced to E1, confinement for 11 months, bad-conduct discharge.

victed at general court-martial; carnal knowledge; reduced to E1, confinement for three years, dishonorable discharge. Pvt. Dwayne Hodge, 3-69 AR, convicted at

Staff Sgt. Dwight A. Hines, 92nd Eng, con-

ing, desertion; confinement for 14 months, bad-conduct discharge. Pvt. Christopher L. Jewett, 1-76 FA, convicted at general court-martial; conspiracy,

robbery, wrongful use of cocaine and mari-

juana; confinement for 5 years, dishonorable

general court-martial; conspiracy, malinger-

discharge. Master Sgt. Michael Crews, A CO, USAG with duty at 332nd Transportation BN in Tampa, Florida, convicted at special courtmartial; wrongful use of cocaine; reduction to

Adverse Administrative Actions OMPF Filed General Officer Memoranda of

Specialist, 703 BSB, BAC .146

Reprimand for DUI Offenses:

E-7.

Pvt. from 703 BSB, received an Article 15;

\$303 pay (suspended), 14 days' extra duty/restriction. Pvt. from 4-64 AR, found guilty at Article 15;

assault; forfeited \$303 pay (suspended), 14

days' extra duty/restriction. Pvt. from 1-76 FA, found guilty at Article 15; AWOL x 3; reduced to E1, forfeited \$650 pay

for two months (suspended); 45 days' extra

duty/restriction.

Pvt. from 703 BSB, found guilty at Article 15; AWOL; reduced to E1 (suspended), forfeited \$303 pay (suspended), 14 days' extra duty/restriction.

**Spc.** from 6-8 CAV, found guilty at Article 15; failure to follow orders or regulations, drunk or reckless operation of a vehicle; reduced to E1, forfeited \$650 pay for two months, 45 days' extra duty/restriction.

15; AWOL, drunk on duty; reduced to E1, forfeited \$636 pay (suspended), 45 days' extra duty/restriction (suspended). Pvt. from 4-64 AR, convicted at summary

**Spc.** from 703 BSB, found guilty at Article

court-martial; wrongful use of illegal drugs; confined for 30 days, forfeiture of \$636. Pvt. from 4-64 AR, convicted at summary

drugs; confined for 30 days, forfeiture of \$867. American Military University

A representative from American Military

court-martial; AWOL, wrongful use of illegal

### system test The Fort Stewart Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and

**Emergency Warning** 

**Operations** Security-Installation Center has began monthly tests of the **Emergency Warning System.** Monthly testing of the EWS serves to test functionality and to boost public

confidence in the system's ability to adequately provide advanced warning in the event of a real-world natural or man-made disaster. The test will be at noon the last working day of each month with a live public address at 11:50 a.m. stating the event is "Only a Test.", and at noon a siren. Questions or concerns about these tests should be directed to the IOC at 767-8666.

### University will be available 9 a.m-12 p.m,

March 9 at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center, 100 Knowledge Drive, Room 108, to discuss the educational needs of the military community. For information, please contact Professor Buddy Maertens at fmaertens@apus.edu or 803-865-9786.

A free hiring event for veterans, personnel

## who are transitioning from active duty,

RecruitMilitary Career Fair

Reserves, Guard, and military spouses presented by RecruitMilitary and the President's National Hire Veterans Committee will be held at the Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., March 14. For more info or to register as a job-seeker, visit www.recruitmilitary.com. Hunter Spouses Club Scholarship Deadline March 16

#### Applications are being accepted for 2007 Hunter Army Airfield Thrift Shop and accomplishments, letters of recommenda-Hunter Spouses Club Scholarships. Family tions and a personal essay. Applications are

members of active duty, retired or deceased service members stationed at Hunter or Stewart are eligible. Retired sponsors and families of deceased sponsors must live in the Savannah area. Selections will be based on academic achievement, school and comavailable through high school counseling offices and a Hunter's ACS, Education Center and the Thrift Shop. Deadline for submission is Mar. 16. Call the Hunter Thrift Shop at 352-0376 for additional information.

munity involvement, volunteer and work



3/6752/5271

mail: janet.lee.bonner@amedd.army.mil

Rock of the Marne March 1, 2007 The Frontline 11A

## "Loose Lips" sink ships - military intelligence in the Global War on Terrorism

**Kurt Wolfe** 

Frontline Staff

In World War II, posters and bill-boards warned us that "Loose Lips Sink Ships." We are now engaged in the Global War on Terrorism and the stakes are just as high. It is as true today as it was a half a century ago that a careless conversation overheard by an adversary is a threat to American lives here and abroad.

A new breed of counterintelligence experts have been born. They adhere to the old principles of intelligence gathering and couple it with an ongoing education in the ever evolving electronic information age.

David Webber, 39, serves as a Special Agent, Savannah Field Office, 902nd Military Intelligence Group. He served on active duty in the Army for seven years before turning civilian.

The job of counterintelligence has always carried with it a glamorous connotation. Webber, however, is more realistic.

"There are a lot of mundane things that go into this job," says Webber. "It's not unlike combat – 99 percent mundane, 1 percent shear terror. At times the job can be overtly dangerous. Anytime you are actively engaged against a foreign adversary you are dealing with people who are deadly serious about their jobs."

In days past, information could clearly be divided into "classified" or not. Webber notes it's not so simple anymore. Unclassified information may seem harmless, but when it's combined with other information it could be deadly.

"Classified information is the traditional thing we are concerned about," says Webber. "But in reality, any information that could be used against us is considered national defense information under the federal statutes. It may be unclassified but still considered national defense information. If it is a deliberate disclosure, it could be called espionage."

Webber warns there could always be somebody listening, especially during a time of deployments, such as now.

"The deployment and redeployment cycles open a lot of vulnerabil-

ity," says Webber. "Soldiers and families are in possession of sensitive information and are actively targeted. We need an elevated sense of awareness. You need to notice your surroundings. Someone may have shifted their seat closer to yours or might be taking notes."

Webber adds it is a legal obligation for a Soldier or Army civilian to report suspicious activity under the provisions of Army Regulation 381-12.

"Every Soldier is a sensor. It is our responsibility to report information of anything suspicious to the appropriate authorities."

But who exactly is a target of enemy intelligence?

"Anybody can be, and often are the target of enemy curiosity. Everyone has information that could be of interest to our enemies. In the intelligence business, every scrap of information is valuable and helps lead to the big picture. It could be something as mundane as a training exercise, or as important as our operational plans for the division going forward."

Webber cites the danger can

result from information innocently shared, but observed with malicious intent.

"It may be just casual conversation. Even some local charity organizations might not be what they appear to be."

It is not just the enemy that is watching and listening. Intelligence officers actively visit public places hoping to stop innocent conversation from going awry. Sometimes though, it is not so innocent.

Webber's job is obviously sensitive, which begs the question – are you worried about going public for this interview?

After some thought he answers. "Part of my responsibility is to make sure that people know who to talk to. I decided that it was my responsibility to let people know we are here and that they can get in touch with us." For him it is clearly a risk worth taking.

Should you become suspicious about people seeking information about you, or a family member connected with the service, you are strongly urged to seek the counsel of the Department of the Army

Intelligence and Security Command in Savannah. Their number is 315-5010, or you can contact David Webber at david.a.webber@us.army. mil. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can call toll free (800)-CALLSPY.

"Confidentiality is part of our business," notes Webber. "We can provide that. Reporting however is everyone's business."



Courtesy Photo

Former Army Sergeant Ali Mohamed - conspirator in Kenya and Tanzania U.S. Embassy bombings- Al Qaeda operative.

#### CONTACT - From Page 1A

Webb believes having the opportunity to contact home does more than give a Soldier a piece of mine but helps raise his morale as well.

"When I call home it makes me feel better because it gives me than ease knowing everything is alright," he said. While Soldiers can call home with phones there are also many computers on the camp, which can be used to stay in touch as well.

Sgt. William Riddle, HHC, 1st BCT said he likes to hop onto a computer to contact his home because it's easier to get to a computer when all the phones are being used up.

"I like to use the internet," Riddle said.
"When I was deployed in Afghanistan the internet was the main way people stayed in touch."

He said there are many internet providers which offer services to contact people instantly when both of them are online at

the same time.

Riddle said, "You can use instant messenger, Yahoo, Gmail, Skype and a ton of other services to talk to people back home."

He added, "Having these services (phones and computers) on camp not only raises morale but makes this year a bit more man-